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# HISTORY

of the

Woman's  
Christian Temperance Union

of

Grinnell, Iowa

from

1874 - 1924

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HISTORY  
of the  
Woman's  
Christian Temperance Union  
of  
Grinnell, Iowa  
from  
1874 to 1924  
by  
Mrs. J. B. Grinnell, and Miss Jennie Bailey

THE FIRST FIFTY YEARS

*For God and Home and Every Land*

## A Review of the Work of the Grinnell W. C. T. U.

By Mrs. J. B. Grinnell 1874 - 1897.

Our Temperance Society was organized in Dec. 1874. Previously the matter was talked of at various times in the Tuesday afternoon meeting which was held at Mrs. Grinnell's. A meeting was called at the Baptist Church to take the subject into consideration.

Officers were chosen, a constitution drafted and it was voted to hold meetings on the third Thursday of each month. Our first work was in obtaining the names of members and circulating a temperance pledge. The March following a citizens mass meeting was held in the Congregational church, H. G. Little presided and it was addressed by Dr. Magoun, Mr. Brande, James Johnson and others. It was voted to appoint a committee of ten gentlemen to watch and detect if possible any violation of law in case of liquor selling. Ten women were added to the committee which constituted a committee of twenty. In the fall two delegates were sent to the State Convention at Des Moines. During the winter it was thought advisable to secure a lecturer from abroad and Mr. Francis Murphy was chosen. It being reported that a saloon had been opened just outside the city limits, Mr. Murphy in company with some of the ladies visited it and with the aid of the committee of twenty it was closed. The following summer 1876 Mrs. Aldrich, our state secretary addressed us and we soon after became auxiliary to the state union. At our request Dr. Cravath, Editor of the Herald, kindly granted us the use of a column in his paper for the publication of temperance articles and a committee was appointed each month to take charge. This was continued for several years. A delegate was sent in June 1876 to a convention at Clear Lake also to the state convention at Marshalltown in October. A Band of Hope was organized that year which was placed in charge of the teachers in the public schools and Sunday School but was not long continued. The next year the district convention was held here. Early in 1878 it was decided to place reading matter in the depot and the ladies volunteered to donate papers. Persons were appointed to receive and place them in the receptacle prepared for them. A bible was donated.

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I82 We were instrumental in abolishing fermented wine from the communion table of the Congregational church. Mr. Timmerman was one of the deacons who was favorable to the idea and as he owned a vineyard he prepared the canned juice which was used. August 19th, 1879 is the first record of a meeting in the church parlor as at that time the new church was completed. In June of that Year our union was addressed in the Baptist church by Mrs. Wittenmeyer, President of Woman's National W. C. T. U. giving sketches of the work in different states and advice in practical work, related cases where disease was treated more satisfactorily without alcohol, a physician declaring that recovery was more speedy. The same year temperance tracts were placed in every house and at the depot. We endeavored to secure the study of the temperance lessons in the Sunday School, circulated a petition for the constitutional amendment and sent a delegate to the district union. About 1881 Mrs. Benedict was soliciting funds to establish a reformatory home in Des Moines for fallen women and our society voted to aid her in the sum of twenty dollars. In June 1882 Miss Frances Willard lectured to a crowded house. That month was the time for voting on the prohibitory amendment and our society manifested their interest on that day by their presence near the polls and by singing temperance songs. Lectures were reported in 1883 from Mrs. Hindman and Mrs. Aldrich. The township alliance requested our society to appoint a committee of five to co-operate with them for vigorous work in regard to the enforcement of the prohibitory law. They were appointed. Mr. Foster of Iowa and Miss Trimball of Chicago gave lectures and Mrs. Benedict two lectures in the interest of the home at Des Moines. A blue ribbon social was held in 1885 and the question was brought up whether we should lend our influence as a union to any political party and it was decided it was not wise. That year we took up different lines of work and appointed superintendents of each. One was for the Benedict Home. It was visited and reports made to us and it was voted to take collections for that object in the different churches at Thanksgiving time. This was continued for some years until some citizens remonstrated, feeling the money should be turned into another channel. A committee was appointed to assist in an effort to establish a Y. M. C. A. Society and some help was rendered along that line. In November 1886 one of our number was appointed visiting delegate to the national convention at Minneapolis and gave a report of the social purity work and recommended that we make an effort to teach our young girls to work. The

idea met with great favor and an Industrial School was started which is still in operation and is we believe the means of much good. There were also plans to aid the needy and destitute in our city. After a year or two a mothers' meeting was started in the Industrial School room, but think it was not long continued. The Temperance literature was distributed at the Malcom fair. The following year we had lectures from Mrs. Cole, superintendent of Social Purity. Mrs. Minkler talked to the children, Mrs. Aldrich lectured during the summer. A county organization was effected. In 1890 a prize was offered to the B class in the Public School for the best temperance production. Nine young people came to the April meeting to read their essays. Five were on alcholic liquors and four on tobacco, and first, second and third prizes were given on each subject.

The union was much pleased with their efforts. In 1891 those who dealt in cigarettes were visited requesting them to refrain from selling to minors. They promised well. Restaurants were also visited to request that they be closed on the Sabbath, but with no definite result. A meeting was held in June commemorative of the passage of the prohibition amendment addressed by Dr. Magoun and Prof. Barnes. Pastors were requested to preach a temperance sermon the 1st Sabbath in November 1892. Pledge cards were circulated in the different Sunday schools. Teachers were interviewed in regard to temperance instruction in the schools. Reported that very good work was being done by oral instruction. In 1895 the society gave seven dollars to the Public Library for purchasing temperance literature, the money being raised at a Sunday evening mass meeting. Ten dollars were given Miss Jennie Barnes to start her in canvassing some parts of the state in hopes of founding an Industrial Home for friendless girls. She reported visiting twenty-two towns and found great need of Home and School for teaching housework and sewing. We held a Martha Washington Tea on Feb. 22nd at which we raised over \$32.00. In 1896 were addressed by Mrs. Plum National Temperance Evangelist. She spoke in the audience room of the church, also to ladies at our meeting. About the beginning of this year at the request of the Temperance Union, sermons were preached by the pastors upon the same Sabbath morning and in the evening of the same day a union meeting of the congregations took the form of a free parliament. In July some of our ladies visited the County Poor House and Jail at Montezuma carrying flowers. They were welcomed. We united with the Women's Association in asking for a curfew ordinance and were successful. We sent each year to Benedict Home dona-

tions of money, clothing and canned fruit, also provided bibles. Our meetings have been regularly held even through the warm weather though few in numbers. We have paid state and district dues, sent delegates to conventions, held union meetings and endeavored to improve our opportunities as far as they were made known to us. But few remain who were with us at the beginning. They have been called to other fields or passed on to higher service above. We have been joined by others of like spirit and with them let us faithfully hold on our way trusting the Father to bless any effort put forth in His name that all may redound to His glory and the good of our fellow-men.

MRS. J. B. GRINNELL.

(This paper was written in 1897 and reports the work to that date.)

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## History of the Grinnell W. C. T. U.

from

1897 TO DECEMBER 16, 1924

by

Miss Jennie Bailey.

Mrs. J. B. Grinnell a charter member of the Grinnell Woman's Christian Temperance Union has written the history of the Union to 1897 inclusive. She continued to be a member of the Union, and whenever her health permitted graced the meetings with her sweet presence until her death, December 11, 1907. The last work she did for the Union a short time before her death was to draft resolutions to be sent to the family of Charles H. Morris who was murdered in Des Moines by a saloon keeper. He was a martyr to the cause of temperance. He was a graduate of Grinnell College in the class of 1884.

### Addresses.

In February 1903 Mr. Rankin lectured in the Congregational church. He was sent out by the State Marshal Club to lecture in favor of a State Marshal to enforce the liquor laws. At this meeting a large number of members were gained for the W. C. T. U.

February 2, 1904 Miss Eva Marshall Shontz of Chicago, president of the Young People's Christian Temperance Union gave a reading of the great temperance story, "At the Mercy of the State," written by Bernie Babcock, at a large mass meeting in the Metho-

dist church. Miss Shontz followed the reading with an earnest appeal for the banishment of the liquor curse. It was one of the best temperance lectures ever given in the city. By collection and pledges, \$50 was raised.

In August 1907, Mrs. Ida B. Wise Smith our State Corresponding Secretary, who afterward became State President, spoke Sunday evening, at the outdoor union meeting of the churches. These meetings were then held north of the High School building.

July 27, 1909 Mr. Ellett lectured.

March 23, 1910 Dr. Emma F. A. Drake spoke before the W. C. T. U.

May 16, 1913 Mrs. W. A. Lawson, president of the Wisconsin State W. C. T. U., spoke in the evening in the audience room of the Congregational church.

In January 1915 Mrs. Roger Leavitt of Cedar Falls, state superintendent of the Sunday School Work department, was invited to Grinnell to a Sunday School Institute. She also spoke three times, with great power, at the Methodist Sunday School, at the Sunday School and young people's meeting of the Congregational Church.

March 3, 1915 Mrs. Ida B. Wise Smith, State President came, under the auspices of the W. C. T. U. and spoke before the Woman's Civic League in the afternoon in the auditorium of the Congregational Church. In the morning she spoke before the pupils of the High School building gathered in the assembly room.

From 1914 to 1917 the W. C. T. U. belonged to the Grinnell Woman's Civic League, which was composed of various other organizations. In 1917 the Civic League disbanded and the Grinnell Woman's Club was organized, which is composed of individual members.

March 28, 1916 Mrs. Sibbits lectured on Equal Suffrage in the Friends church. Five new members and two honorary members were gained at this meeting.

April 20, 1916 Mr. Fanning spoke on Equal Suffrage in the Baptist church.

In April 1919 Prof. Rockwood gave a stereopticon lecture on cigarettes and temperance to a crowded house in the Presbyterian church. Many High School boys were present. At this meeting fourteen active and twelve honorary members were gained for the Union. He was sent out by the state W. C. T. U. and the state Anti-Saloon League.

January 16, 1923 Prof. Bird Baldwin of the Iowa City Child Research Department, spoke in the High School assembly room. He came under the auspices of the W. C. T. U. and the Parent Teachers Association. Some stereopticon pictures were shown.

June 26, 1923, Miss Winona Jewel of Denver, Colorado, National Field Secretary of Young People's Work, spoke in the afternoon at a parlor meeting at the home of the president Mrs. Robert Lincoln, and in the evening, at the end of one of the revival meetings that were being held by the Christian Church, in a tent on their lot, at the corner of Broad St. and Sixth Ave., conducted by Evangelist Lind.

### Conventions and Institutes.

May 7, 1901 a very successful District Convention was held in the Congregational church in Grinnell. Lunch was served in the church.

In June, 1904, a small but very successful District Convention was held in the Congregational church. Mrs. Miller state president was present. Dinner and supper were served in the church.

June 20, 1914, an all day institute was held in the Congregational Church. Mrs. Barnard, the District President was present. Five members came from the new Union at Searsboro, but those from the new Union at Ladora were detained by the rain. Dinner was served in the church.

May 11 and 12, 1915 the District Convention was held in the Baptist church and dinner was served in the church. Delegates were present from the Unions of Oskaloosa, Lacey, Rose Hill, Searsboro, Hawkeye, Buckeye and Frances Willard.

All over the state the district organizations were given up and county organizations took their places. May 20, 1916 the last district convention was held at Richland. September 12, 1916, Mrs. Barnard, District President, organized Poweshiek Co. at the home of Mrs. Robert Lincoln, president of the Grinnell Union. A picnic supper was served. Mrs. Bowen of Searsboro was elected county president and served until 1919, since which time Mrs. E. M. Kearney of Grinnell has been President.

July 24, 1918 the county convention was held in the Methodist church. A picnic dinner was served in the church.

May 21 and 22, 1920 a County Institute was held in the Baptist church. Four Unions were represented. Mrs. Linnie Carl, National Superintendent of Young People's Work and Mrs. Lucile

Shadle, state treasurer, were present. Dinner was served in the church.

December 13, 1921 the Union held an institute in the Presbyterian church. Visitors were present from Montezuma and Mal-com. The ministers and their wives, Mayor J. L. McIlrath and other speakers and their wives were entertained at dinner. Rev. and Mrs. C. A. Carman just arrived to take charge of the Baptist church were guests at dinner. Mayor McIlrath, Rev. W. C. Wasser, pastor of the Methodist church and Miss Kate Hill, a mis-sionary from India, who was sent out by the Presbyterian church, spoke in the afternoon. Mrs. William Hamilton, president of the Union, Rev. W. W. Woodburn, pastor of the Presbyterian church, an Prof. E. B. T. Spencer spoke in the evening.

Twice the Union has been invited to the home of Mrs. John P. Baker of Searsboro. June 1, 1915 twelve members went down, March 1, 1921 members of the Union accepted the invitation. Members were also present from the Montezuma Union. It proved to be Mr. and Mrs. Baker's 28th wedding anniversary.

### Resolutions.

In May 1900 a memorial was sent to Congress in regard to the "Canteen Law."

In February 1905 at the suggestion of Mrs. J. B. Grinnell a memorial was sent to Congress asking for the suppression of Mormonism. It was voted to request the other Unions of the state and the state officers to send memorials.

September 20, 1911 resolutions were sent to Pres. Taft, Sec. Wilson and Sec. Knox protesting against the favorable attitude taken by the administration, toward the Brewer's Congress which was soon to be held in Chicago.

In 1913 letters were sent to state representative Ralph Sher-man and state senator H. W. Spaulding requesting their ardent support of one temperance resolution and four temperance bills.

In January 1914 a memorial was sent to each member of the trustees and each member of the faculty of Grinnell College, pro-testing against the Alumni Smoker, which had been held for the first time on the campus during Commencement 1913 in the society halls in the old alumni building. The memorial was, also in re-gard to smoking among the students.

In April 1914 resolutions were put in the Herald approving the stand taken by the ministers and Editor of Grinneii Register, showing their disapproval of immoral plays.

In May 1914, in addition to sending a telegram, to our senator and representative, in congress to support the Prohibition Amendment, we requested the Ministerial Association, the Brotherhood, the Commercial Club and the College to send telegrams and they did so.

In May 1914 also a letter of commendation was sent to the editors of Scarlet and Black, the Grinnell College paper, for refusing to publish tobacco advertisements in the paper.

In 1915, letters and telegrams were sent to state senator Laffer and state representative Rayburn asking them to support the Mulct Repeal Bill and the Woman's Suffrage Amendment both of which passed. The secretary also wrote to them asking their endorsement of the bill raising the age of consent. It failed to pass.

In 1916 resolutions were sent to congress in favor of National Prohibition, censorship of moving pictures and prohibition in the District of Columbia.

In 1921 a letter was sent state representative Bradley and state senator Cessna requesting them **not** to vote for the local option cigarette bill which did pass and took the place of the state prohibition law.

In 1923 telegrams and letters were sent to state representative Bradley and state senator Cessna requesting them to work for an appropriation for Child Welfare work at Iowa City.

### Schools.

Scientific temperance instruction was put into the public school in 1910. Since 1913 the schools have been regularly visited in the interests of temperance. Two ladies would visit a building. As they went to each room, above the kindergarten the teacher would drop other work and give a temperance lesson. Temperance leaflets or blotters with a temperance sentiment were given to every pupil.

For several years the Temperance Quarterly and the Crusader Monthly were sent to each school building.

In 1911 a prize was offered to the students of Grinnell College academy for the best temperance essay. James Simmons won the prize. His essay also took the \$10 prize given by the district.

Since 1912 a prize has been offered every year to the 8th grade pupils of the public schools, for the best temperance essay, the subject being selected from a number of subjects furnished. Sometimes two or three prizes have been given.

Since 1917 a prize has also been offered to pupils of the High School for the best temperance essay.

In 1923 a prize was offered to the 7th grade pupils for temperance and anti-cigarette posters. Very creditable posters were made. Sixty posters were started the first year, fifteen of which were completed and were displayed in the public library.

In May 1916 a new flag was put on Cooper school in place of the old one at the request of the Union.

In 1917 Silver Medal contests were held in the Baptist church, in the Friends church and at Westfield.

In 1921 a silver medal contest was held in the Congregational church with six girls taking part.

In 1922 silver medal contests were held by the Presbyterian, the Congregational, the Baptist, the Friends, the Christian and the Westfield Sunday Schools. The gold medal contest was held in the Baptist church.

In the fall of 1918, Frances Willard's picture was presented to Davis School and the school had appropriate exercises. Her picture was also given to the High School.

In September 1919 a reception was held for the teachers of all the schools and the school board at Davis School.

In the fall of 1921 Mrs. Effie Stocks, a member of the Union, organized a Parent-Teachers Association at Davis School. In October 1919 she organized an L. T. L. with fifteen members. It met for several months.

May 22, 1922 a banquet was given in the Methodist church to the teachers and the school board. The pastors and their wives were also invited. After the banquet, our state president Mrs. Ida B. Wise Smith gave a very impressive appeal to put the Bible back in the public schools.

### Literature.

The state paper the W. C. T. U. Bulletin was kept in the city Library until 1906, when its publication was discontinued, and the W. C. T. U. Champion took its place. The Champion has been kept in the Library ever since its publication. The Temperance Tribune, the national paper, was kept in the city library until 1907, when its publication was discontinued. The Union Signal has been kept in the library since that time. The Crusader Monthly was kept in the city library from 1907 to 1920.

Commencing with 1921 the Union Signal has been sent to the Pastors and Mayor.

Manhood's Morning and a number of other temperance books have been given to the city Library.

In 1923 more than 200 books were given to Holiness University at University Park, Oskaloosa. A request for books had been made.

Commencing with 1904 the Union edited a temperance column in the Grinnell Herald every month for several years and then occasionally in both the Herald and the Grinnell Register.

In 1904 a wall pocket was put in the waiting room at the station. It was twice destroyed, but was replaced and kept there until 1915 when the walls were repainted and nothing was allowed to be put up after that. A different lady took a certain day in each week and carried all kinds of good periodicals to the wall pocket so that fresh literature was kept constantly in the wall pocket.

Temperance leaflets have been distributed in all of the Sunday Schools on Worlds Temperance Sunday and Anti-cigarette Sunday and sent several times to the Westfield Sunday School and Maple Grove Sunday School and a few rural day schools. In one way and another between 2,000 and 3,000 or more leaflets have been distributed every year. As many as 5,300 leaflets were distributed one year.

### Rest Rooms.

From 1911 to 1917 inclusive 7 years a free "Rest Tent" was provided at the Grinnell Fair. Many mothers with small children and other ladies were glad to have a comfortable place to rest. Several ladies who were taken sick on the grounds were cared for at the "Rest Tent." Hundreds of temperance leaflets were distributed. Some money was made by checking parcels at the "Tent." In 1914 it rained and was muddy during all of the time of the fair so the fair did not amount to much and consequently the "Rest Tent" was of little use.

In 1922 the city provided a Rest Room in the basement of the City Hall building and partly furnished it. The Union did the remainder of the furnishing, providing some of the furniture themselves and soliciting some of it. They also kept literature on the table.

### **Floats.**

In the summer of 1914 the Union made a banner, white satin with gold fringe and tassel with "Grinnell W. C. T. U." painted in black letters on it.

The Union had a float in the grand 4th of July parade in 1913.

The Union had a float in the parade, preceding the union Sunday School picnic held on the college campus August 7, 1912. It consisted of J. W. Harpster's furniture delivery wagon, drawn by Mr. William Wrage's horse. On the decorated wagon were 11 girls. One represented Temperance, another Iowa and the rest the prohibition states. The girls were dressed in white with sashes, each sash having the name of a state on it. They sang two temperance songs as they rode along.

The Chester Center congregational church requested the Union to send speakers Sunday morning October 14, 1917 in the interest of the State Prohibition Amendment which was to be voted on by the people at the November election. It failed to pass at that time. Mrs. Robert Lincoln and Mrs. Effie Stocks were the speakers sent by the Union. Mr. Henry Lyman of Grinnell spoke also.

The Union had a float in the temperance parade October 15, 1917 which was in the interest of the state prohibition amendment. The float was Rev. Robert Lincoln's car decorated in white, driven by Mr. Lincoln. It was given the place of honor in the parade right behind the band. The car contained Mrs. Robert Lincoln, president, Mrs. Isabella Brande, charter member, Mrs. Effie Estocks and Miss Jennie Bailey.

October 16, 1917 the Union held a prayer meeting before the regular meeting for the success of the state prohibition amendment.

The Union had an elegant float in the magnificent Armistice Day parade in 1921. It was Mr. William Hamilton's car decorated in purple and white. On each side it had the mottor, "For God and Home and Every Land." Our W. C. T. U. banner was on the front of the car. Those who rode in the car were Mrs. William Hamilton president, Mrs. Isabella Brande charter member, Mrs. E. M. Kearney county president, Mrs. Effie Stocks and Miss Jennie Bailey.

In the afternoon of Armistice Day 1918, a very earnest prayer meeting, thanksgiving for peace was held in the Presbyterian church.

A special prayer meeting was held January 24, 1918.

In July 1906 the Union voted to favor the uniting of the two state Unions.

Nov. 20, 1906 the Union voted to raise the dues from 65 cents to \$1.00 as that was the state's decision.

The time of meeting was changed from Thursday afternoon to the third Tuesday of each month at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

The usual place of meeting has been in the Congregational church. At times the meetings have been held around in the different churches especially in parts of 1913, 1914 and 1915. Sometimes the meetings have been held in the homes of some of the members. September 18, 1906 the Union met in the Uncle Sam Club House.

In 1913 the annual meeting was changed from September to August. This was done by all of the Unions of the state at the request of the state Union so that the reports of the year's work could be ready for the state convention.

### Social Gatherings.

August 19, 1913 the annual meeting followed by a picnic supper was held at the home of Mrs. William Wrage on south Main St.

August 19, 1919, July 19, 1921 and July 18, 1922 the meetings followed by picnic suppers were held on the lawn at the home of Mrs. Charles Woods, 505 Main St.

July 20, 1920 the Union held a joint meeting and picnic supper with the Social Study Club which consists of Mrs. S. A. Martin's Sunday School class of the Congregational church at the home of Mrs. R. J. Hadley at the grove northwest of town.

January 11, 1921 the Union again held a joint meeting with the Social Study Club, at the home of Mrs. T. S. Gove. The subject considered was Temperance and Missions. Mrs. Gove served refreshments.

November 21, 1922 an all day meeting with a picnic dinner was held at the home of the president, Mrs. Robert Lincoln, 525 Main St. Mayor J. L. McIlrath requested the Union to appoint a police matron. Mrs. George W. Richards was appointed matron.

May 15, 1923 the Union met with Mrs. John Lincoln, 403 Main St. The parent-teachers association of Davis School was invited.

June 19, 1923 the Union met at the home of Mrs. William Hamilton southeast of the city limits. The program was followed by a picnic supper.

### Benedict Home.

Every year a box or barrel or as many as four boxes in 1900 two barrels in 1914 and three barrels another year containing canned fruit, jelly, clothing and other articles have been sent to Benedict Home. They have usually been worth more than \$20 and once \$50.

Money has been contributed to the Home nearly every year varying in amount from \$1.00 to \$10.00.

In 1898 the Youths Companion and the Ladies Home Journal were sent to the Home.

February 22, 1899 a Martha Washington supper was given. \$85 of the proceeds was sent to the Home. \$95 in all was sent during the year besides canned fruit and clothing.

In February 1900—\$10 for coal was sent to the Home.

In 1905 Rev. J. M. Hoffman, financial agent for raising a permanent endowment for Benedict Home raised more than \$1100 in Grinnell. \$100 of this amount was given by members of the Union, one giving \$50 and two others giving \$25 each. His success was largely due to the influence of members of the Union who accompanied him when he was soliciting. Before this \$10 had been given by the Union to the endowment.

October 19, 1915—\$2.50 was sent to pay for twenty five bricks in the new Benedict Home building.

In the fall of 1921 a bundle of linen articles was sent to the Home as a shower of linen had been requested from the Unions of the state.

In October 1922—\$10 was sent to the Home to buy sheets.

In August 1904—85 cents was given to buy towels for use in the W. C. T. U. building at the state fair.

### Flower Mission.

The Union sent from 50 to 100 bouquets with as many cards having Scripture texts to the Girls Industrial School at Mitchellville every year until 1918 when other Unions were appointed to send flowers to Mitchellville.

The Union sent flowers to the tuberculosis hospital at Oakdale in 1918, 1919 and 1920.

In 1921—50 bouquets were distributed to the hospitals, the sick and shut-ins in town.

In 1922—75 bouquets and a box of peonies were sent to the State Children's Home at Toledo and a large basket of flowers was sent to the Community Hospital.

In 1923—65 bouquets and 68 peonies were sent to the children's home at Toledo. 39 bouquets sent to the hospitals in town.

In 1924 bouquets were sent to the Children's Home at Toledo, to the Community Hospital, the sick and shutins in town.

### Celebrations.

December 31, 1915 a watch meeting was held in the Friends church.

January 21, 1919 a praise meeting was held because thirty-eight states had ratified the National Prohibition Amendment. Short talks were given by Rev. E. M. Vittum, Rev. W. W. Woodburn, W. G. Ray, Rev. Robert Lincoln, Rev. Joseph Sopher, Mrs. Isabella Brande, Mrs. Sopher and Mrs. J. M. Kirk.

January 16, 1920 a jubilee meeting was held in the Congregational church celebrating the day when the National Prohibition Amendment went into effect. Mr. Grimes of Montezuma and Rev. W. C. Wassar, pastor of the Grinnell Methodist church were the speakers. The L. T. L. gave a temperance missionary exercise and sang, "All Round the World." Miss Duffus and Miss Harris presented with a solo a pantomime, "The Star Spangled Banner."

### Special Aid.

In March 1903 the case of the inhuman treatment of a young boy by his drunken step-father was taken up and referred to the Humane society.

In November 1910 a prisoner at Ft. Madison wrote a letter addressed to the W. C. T. U. and asked the Union to tell him about his nine year old daughter. The girl was looked up and located in Lynnnville and word was sent to her father that she was being cared for. Various other instances could be cited, where the Union has been helpful.

### Finances.

In June 1908 a Market Day was held which brought \$4.90 into the treasury. In April 1911 a Market Day was held which brought the sum of \$23.17. Every year since a Market Day has been held

in April bringing usually over \$30. One year \$44 was taken in. In 1923 the amount gained was \$60. April 6, 1918 a War Food Exhibit was held which was very successful. With each article of food, the recipe was given to the purchaser. Royal Baking Powder war food recipe books were sold for five cents apiece. The Market Day sales have always been held in the window of the Central Meat Market at 811, 4th Ave., through the kindness of the proprietors, Mr. Newton W. Cessna and Mr. Ira Goodrich.

On the evening of September 18, 1912—\$1.16 was earned by some members of the Union, husking corn at four cents per bushel at the canning factory. It was the first year that the factory ran. The husking machines had not been installed. Help was short. Other organizations worked other evenings and afternoons.

February 17, 1917, the Grinnell State Marshall Club, having disbanded, turned over to the Union \$3.56, the money which was left in their treasury.

July 23, 1913 the Union gave \$5 toward summer recreation work for boys and girls in Grinnell, carried on under the direction of Miss Ada Hopkins, first secretary of the Social Service League.

January 16, 1914—\$5 was given to the Y. W. C. A. of Grinnell College toward Mrs. Stewart's lecture on Equal Suffrage April 23, in the chapel.

June 26, 1914—\$10 was given to the Flying Squadron of America for a National Prohibition Campaign Fund, after speeches in the park.

February 29, 1916—\$2 was given toward the "Nickel a Member" fund for State Suffrage campaign.

In 1917—\$14.50 was given toward the state "Mile of Dimes" Fund. \$5 was given to the Temperance Alliance. \$16 was given for the State Prohibition Amendment Campaign fund.

In 1920—\$12 was given for Armenian Relief.

\$220 was given to the Million Dollar Jubilee Fund to be used for Law Enforcement, the promotion of Americanization, Child Welfare, World Prohibition, Health, Morality and Regulation of Woman's Labor. Part of the amount was contributed by members of the Union and part of it was solicited.

In 1917—24 comfort bags were sent to the Great Lakes Training Camp near Chicago. Each bag also contained a letter written by some member of the Union.

In August 1917—\$1.00 was sent toward the state fund for a Red Cross ambulance in France. In 1917—40 splint bags were sent to

the soldiers and 20 books to the Y. M. C. A. \$10 was sent toward the Stereomotograph at Camp Dodge. \$5 worth of leaflets, by Mr. McCowan, were sent to the soldiers.

In April 1918, eighteen quarts of jam, and thirty-four glasses of jelly, for "spreads for soldiers' bread," were sent to the soldiers at Camp Cody, New Mexico. In November forty four cushions were sent to Fort Des Moines Hospital. Fifteen of the cushions were given by the Union and the remainder were sent from other places in the county to be sent at the same time.

In 1919 about \$60 in all was sent to Fort Des Moines Hospital. \$5 of the amount was for the organ.

In 1922—\$5 was spent to buy fresh fruit to send to the Soldiers Hospital at Colfax for Christmas. About the same time \$5 was given to Mrs. Marie Jones for the soldiers.

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In February 1911 the closing of the Post Office on Sunday was taken up. With the aid of the Ministerial Association, the Young People's Societies of the churches and the college students it was gained. The Postmaster made the request, for closing, to the Post Office department, at Washington and the request was granted. The delivery window is no longer open on Sunday and gathering the mail on Sunday from the postal boxes has been restricted to the central part of town once a day. The postal clerks were very glad of the added rest that it gave them.

In December 1912 the moving picture shows were open three Sunday evenings. The Union enlisted the help of the Ministerial Association and the Sunday movies were closed.

In 1917 the moving picture shows were again opened on Sunday. The Union took it up with the city council. A number of the council were very much in favor of closing the Sunday movies. The council passed an ordinance against "Sunday Movies," but the ordinance was not enforced until the spring of 1922.

One of the most earnest prayer meetings ever held by the Union was held at their meeting a short time before the City Election in March 1921. This was the first city election at which the women voted. The Union had the deciding influence in electing a law enforcement mayor, J. L. McIlrath and some good members of the city council. Many fine things were done during this administration. The Union requested that some of them be done. It does not claim the credit for the accomplishments of the administration, but it favored them and gave its moral support.

The "Sunday Movie" ordinance was taken into the courts by the moving picture men's attorney John H. Patton. Mayor McIlrath and the city council stood firmly on the ordinance and great credit is due City Attorney Charles H. Manly and Attorney Will C. Rayburn who assisted him. They defended the ordinance to a successful conclusion through all the windings of the district court and the state supreme court.

The "Sunday Movies" were closed in the spring of 1922 although the matter was not entirely out of the courts until January 1923. In the fall of 1922 an attempt was made to evade the law by having what was called a photo play club of about 60 members. The members paid \$1.00 a month which they claimed to be dues. This made 25 cents for a show and the same picture was shown the following Monday evening. The moving pictures kept open for several Sunday evenings showing pictures to the club. When the council intimated that if it continued they would probably take away entirely the license of the moving picture men, the club disbanded, or else some of its members became ashamed of its actions.

In the spring of 1920, a committee from the W. C. T. U. brought action against three of the dealers for selling cigarettes. County Attorney Frank Talbott and Sheriff Date Gregson raided the three places of business and found cigarettes in two of them. The two dealers were fined \$300 each.

The third had been warned and had removed his cigarettes. Later he was apprehended and fined.

In the latter part of the 1920 and '21 session of the Legislature, the Local Option Cigarette Law was passed.

It took the place of the good State law, which prohibited the sale of cigarettes in the state.

In the spring of 1921 the local council voted four to two against licensing the sale of cigarettes in the city of Grinnell. In the spring of 1922, one of the council turned, and so the council tied on the licensing of the sale of cigarettes and the Mayor cast the deciding vote against license.

In March 1923, J. L. McIlrath was elected Mayor of Grinnell for the second term.

The Union had a great influence in re-electing him, and also in electing some good members of the city council. Mayor McIlrath resigned his office to take effect at the end of the first year of this term. Mr. H. S. Lowrey, one of the council, acted

as chairman until a new Mayor was elected. In June, two of the council were absent from the city, and in the absence of these two, a council meeting was called and by a majority vote of those present, one of the tobacco dealers was licensed to sell cigarettes. On the return of one of the absent members the second council meeting was called and another dealer was licensed. Subsequent meetings were called until seven dealers were licensed to sell cigarettes.

In the summer of 1923, the Sunday Movie Picture Ordinance was repealed. Mayor Ray vetoed the repeal but it was passed over the Mayor's veto. The moving pictures have been open, on Sunday, from that time until the present time.

Much pressure has been brought to bear on the members of the council and remonstrances have been sent to that body, against the Sunday movies.

In 1924, a committee from the Union visited the cigar stores, requesting that pictures of women and children, advertising tobacco, should not be displayed in the windows. Some of the dealers agreed and one has kept his word.

In the spring of 1921 at the county W. C. T. U. convention a committee, consisting of the county officers and presidents of the local Unions of the county, was appointed to request the board of supervisors not to license the sale of cigarettes in the county outside of the corporate limits of the towns.

In 1921 a rough board dancing pavilion was put up just a little west of the Grinnell city limits. A license was asked to sell cigarettes at this place. The board of supervisors replied that they would not license the sale of cigarettes right near a town that had voted against license.

In the spring of 1922 the president of the county W. C. T. U., who resided in Grinnell learned one morning that the board of supervisors were about to license the sale of cigarettes at the joint outside of Grinnell. A quiet day, at home, would have been desirable, but she informed Mayor McIlrath and collected a few workers. Some very rapid work was done with the board of supervisors by interviewing, telephoning and writing and what appeared to be a defeat was soon turned into a victory. In the evening the chairman of the board of supervisors, who had been in Grinnell in the afternoon and had been interviewed by the Mayor and a number of members of the Union telephoned Mayor McIlrath that the board of supervisors would not license the sale of cigarettes near Grinnell when the city council had refused license.

"The Pavilion" ran during the summers of 1921 and 1922. During the summer of 1923 it was not used and the land around it was made into a cornfield. In August 1923 someone attempted to burn it. This caused it soon to be torn down.

Early in Mayor McIlrath's first term a certain element became so angry because of the enforcement of law they threatened to build a cabaret on east Sixth Avenue just a little beyond the city limits and have moving pictures which would be open Sundays, dancing every evening but Sunday, Sunday base-ball games and various other amusements. Public sentiment was so strong against it that it was never built.

Mayor McIlrath soon after he entered upon the duties of his office appointed a fine chief of police, Alex Manson. After a while Mr. Manson appointed other good policemen. In this way the town got rid of bad policemen it had had. Much was done toward cleaning up the city. It was uphill work, there was so much opposition by a certain element in the town. Many criminals of long standing were dealt with.

At the state convention held in Shenandoah, in 1923 it was decided that fifty meetings be held in the State, two counties uniting to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the organization of the state Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

January 15, 1924, Poweshiek Co. and Jasper Co., united in holding an all day Jubilee meeting in the Grinnell Congregational church. Mrs. E. M. Kearney, President of the Poweshiek Co. W. C. T. U. and Mrs. Coffey, President of the Jasper Co. W. C. T. U., each presided a part of the time.

Mrs. Grimes of Newton spoke. Miss Jennie Bailey gave a history of the Grinnell Union. Mrs. Vinnie R. Williams, state Vice President was present and spoke. Mrs. Williams also gave an address in the evening in the audience room. A gentleman said that it was the finest temperance address that he ever heard. Rev. W. C. Wasser, pastor of the Methodist church also spoke. Dinner and supper were served in the church.

March 18, 1924 the meeting was held with Mrs. G. W. Richards. It was in charge of the honorary members. Rev. W. W. Woodburn had charge of the devotionals. He read Isaiah 62. He declared that it was one of the darkest periods in American history because of the spirit of lawlessness and of graft that was sweep-

ing over our country. Rev. John Lincoln spoke on Law Enforcement. Rev. Robert Lincoln spoke on Faithfulness. Refreshments were served.

April 17, 1924 the Union met with its treasurer Miss Harriet Buck. A bouquet of roses was presented to Miss Buck in recognition of her faithful services as treasurer. Prof. E. B. T. Spencer gave an address.

October 21, 1924 the Union met with Mrs. Pearl Garner. Reports of the State Jubilee meeting at Cedar Rapids, the city where the state Union was organized 50 years before, were given. 7 delegates from the local Union attended; Mrs. Robert Lincoln, Mrs. E. M. Kearney, Mrs. Effie Stocks, Mrs. Charles S. Woods, Mrs. Roy Cole, Miss Harriet Buck and Mrs. John German. At this meeting Miss Harriet Buck, treasurer of the Grinnell Union was presented with a fountain pen by the editor of the W. C. T. U. Champion, Mrs. Isabella Smith, for sending in the most perfect list of members, promptly, of all the treasurers in the State.

The delegates from Grinnell, presented Mrs. Smith, State President, with a chain of seventy two fragrant pansies, representing the new members secured by our Union during the year 1924.

December 16, 1924 the local Union celebrated the 50th anniversary of its organization, in the Baptist church. The Union was organized in the old frame building, that stood in the same location. Rev. C. A. Carman, pastor of the Baptist church, led the devotionals and sang "Victory." Miss Jennie Bailey gave a condensed history of the Union. Mrs. Effie Stocks gave reminiscences, and Mrs. E. M. Kearney and Mrs. G. O. Watland gave reports from the national Jubilee convention in Chicago. We had with us our only living charter member, Mrs. Isabella Brande, widow of Rev. Thomas Brande, one of the early pastors of the Baptist church. Mrs. Brande celebrated her 87th birthday March 4, 1924. She spoke words of reminiscence and encouragement. With her sweet lovely face, her beautiful alto voice and her life of service her very presence has been a benediction. There was a large three tier birthday cake with 50 candles. Mrs. Brande lighted the large candle in the center. Little Betty Cross, daughter of Rev. E. W. Cross, pastor of the Congregational church, assisted by her mother lighted the remaining 49 candles. Refreshments of coffee and the birthday cake were served.

Early in the century the Union was small in numbers, but it always held meetings and kept at work. At the time of the 50th anniversary of the organization of the Union, its membership numbered more than 200.

The Union has had superintendents of the following departments:

Scientific Temperance; Sabbath Observance; Purity and Benedict Home; Flower Mission; Medal Contests; Equal Suffrage; until that was obtained and then Citizenship; Child Welfare; Soldiers and Sailors; Sunday School, and Scientific Temperance Instruction.

The following members of the Union were made life members of the state Union in the years placed before their names:

1914—Mrs. Isabella Brande.

1917—Miss Jennie Bailey.

1918—Mrs. Rev. Robert Lincoln.

1919—Mrs. Effie Stocks.

1920—Mrs. Charles S. Woods.

1921—Mrs. G. O. Watland.

1922—Miss Harriet Buck.

1923—Mrs. Rev. W. W. Woodburn.

1924—

	Mrs. George W. Richards.
	Mrs. M. E. Hess.

The presidents of the Union since 1900 have been:

1900—Mrs. Rev. J. A. Brown.

1907—Miss Ella E. Marsh

1910—Mrs. Effie Stocks.

1913—Mrs. Rev. Robert Lincoln.

1919—Mrs. J. M. Kirk.

1921—Mrs. William Hamilton.

1922—Mrs. Rev. Robert Lincoln, our tried and true president is again in the office.







